

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Emergency Condition Notification Form

Date: Thursday, September 8, 2011

Time: 7:00 AM (MDT)

Facility Affected: Yellowtail Dam

River(s) Affected: Bighorn River

Organizations Receiving this Notification:

In accordance with the Yellowtail Dam Emergency Action Plan (EAP), inflows and releases from Yellowtail Dam have dropped below levels requiring an elevated response level and notifications to downstream authorities and affected agencies. The status update below is for informational purposes only.

Please note that Reclamation will discontinue the daily posting of this notification form at <http://www.usbr.gov/gp/mtao> after September 8, 2011. Information regarding the current operational conditions at Yellowtail Dam and Reservoir can be obtained at http://www.usbr.gov/gp/lakes_reservoirs/montana_lakes.htm.

Condition Description

Current Conditions – Yellowtail Dam and Bighorn River:

- Reservoir Elevation: 3642.24 feet, a decrease of 0.13 feet in the last 24 hours.
- Elevation of the top of the Joint-Use Pool (normal Full-pool level): 3640.0 feet
- Exclusive Flood Control Storage Utilized: 11.3 percent of 258,331 acre-feet available
- Release to the Bighorn River: 4,200 cubic-feet per second (cfs)
- 24-hour average inflow: 3,600 cfs

Yellowtail Reservoir is expected to continue slowly drafting in the coming weeks. There are no dam safety related conditions or concerns with Yellowtail or Yellowtail Afterbay Dams.

1. Potential River Levels and Times of Arrival

The following provides the approximate travel times and river stage changes from Yellowtail Dam at key locations along the Bighorn River:

<u>Bighorn River Location</u>	<u>Approximate Travel Time</u>	<u>Approximate River Stage Change per 500 cfs Flow Change</u>
Two Leggins Bridge	7-9 hours	0.20 feet
Hardin	10-12 hours	0.20 feet
Confluence with the Yellowstone River	24 hours	0.15 feet

2. Actions Taken by Reclamation

Reclamation will discontinue the daily internet posting of this notification form at <http://www.usbr.gov/gp/mtao> after September 8, 2011.

3. Actions Expected of Downstream Agencies

Please visit http://www.usbr.gov/gp/lakes_reservoirs/montana_lakes.htm for current operational conditions for Yellowtail Dam.

4. For Additional Information

Steve Davies
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Montana Area Office
Office: 406-247-7322
Cell: 406-855-1446
sdavies@usbr.gov

5. Media Inquiries:

Paula Holwegner
U.S Bureau of Reclamation
Montana Area Office
Office: 406-247-7300
Cell: 406-670-5158
pholwegner@usbr.gov